



# NO WORKER LEFT BEHIND

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Don't see your question? Please contact your local Michigan Works! Agency at 1-800-285-WORK, visit their web site at [www.michiganworks.org](http://www.michiganworks.org), or email [NWLB@michigan.gov](mailto:NWLB@michigan.gov).



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## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is NWLB?

*No Worker Left Behind (NWLB)* is Governor Granholm's vision for accelerating the transition of thousands of workers into good-paying jobs by providing up to two years worth of free tuition at any community college, university, or other approved training provider to gain the skills and credentials for new careers in high-demand occupations, emerging industries, or to start a business. The program will expand on job training and education services currently available to job seekers through Michigan Works! Service Centers. For more information go to [www.michigan.gov/nwlb](http://www.michigan.gov/nwlb) or call 1-800-285-WORK.

### 2. Who qualifies for NWLB?

- Any person who is currently unemployed, or
- Any person who has received a notice of termination or layoff from employment, or
- Any employed person whose family income is \$40,000 or less per year.
- Participants must be at least 18 years old, must not have graduated from high school in the last two years and must not be full-time college students. (Individuals who have graduated from high school in the last two years may qualify for Michigan Promise. You may get more information on the Michigan Promise at [www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid](http://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid).)
- The starting point for determining eligibility and completing the assessment for No Worker Left Behind is your local Michigan Works! Agency office.

### 3. Where do I sign up for NWLB?

The first step is to visit your local Michigan Works! Service Center to begin the eligibility and skills assessment process. If you do not know where the nearest office is located you may contact Michigan Works! at 1-800-285-WORK (9675) or visit their website at [www.michiganworks.org](http://www.michiganworks.org). Beginning August 1, 2007, eligible individuals have three years to sign up and participate in this one-time offer.

### 4. Can I take training in any area I want?

Participants must pursue a degree or occupational certificate in a high-demand occupation, emerging industry, or in an entrepreneurship program. Local Michigan Works! Service Centers are able to help participants identify high demand occupations in their region. For an idea of the types of training that may be eligible in your region visit [www.mycareereducation.org](http://www.mycareereducation.org). Michigan Works! has the final determination regarding eligible/allowable training programs.

### 5. Is there a limit on training costs?

Yes, the tuition assistance is capped at \$5,000 per year for two years, for a total of \$10,000 per person.

### 6. What does the \$5,000 cover?

It will cover tuition or instructional costs, books, materials, fees (such as application costs, registration, and laboratory fees) and academic supportive services (counseling and career advising). Tuition assistance is capped at \$5,000 per year for two years, for a total of \$10,000 per person.

**7. What are the requirements of the program?**

Participants must pursue an associate's degree or occupational certificate in 1) a high demand field, 2) emerging industry, or 3) entrepreneurship program. However, bachelor's degree completion and even master's programs are allowable if the educational program meets all other core criteria (two years or less needed; will lead to job in high demand, emerging sector, or entrepreneurial endeavor; etc). Local Michigan Works! Service Centers will be able to help participants identify high demand occupations in their region.

**8. A potential employer has guaranteed me a good paying job if I get an associate's degree. The field of study is not on your list of approved curriculum. Is there a way this field of study can be in the program?**

Participants must pursue an associate's degree or occupational certificate in 1) a high demand field, 2) emerging industry, or 3) entrepreneurship program. Local Michigan Works! Service Centers will be able to help participants identify high demand occupations in their region.

**9. I'm currently getting unemployment assistance. Do I still qualify for the \$10,000?**

Whether you are or are not receiving unemployment assistance is not an eligibility criterion for No Worker Left Behind. Any person who is currently unemployed can qualify for No Worker Left Behind. Please contact your local Michigan Works! Agency at **1-800-285-WORK (9675)** or visit their website at [www.michiganworks.org](http://www.michiganworks.org) to begin the eligibility and skills assessment process.

**10. Are there any on-line courses available? I work during the day at a convenience store to cover my rent, and have to care for my kids at night. On-line courses would be very convenient for me.**

Yes, community colleges, universities, and other training entities do offer on-line courses.

**11. I'm currently employed, however I make less than \$40,000/year and work evenings. How can I get my current employer to be flexible with my schedule so I can attend classes?**

Many colleges and universities offer on-line and weekend classes giving students more options to accommodate their schedules.

**12. Is there an age limitation? I'm 52 years old with a Bachelor's Degree. However, for the last 15 years I've been working in a manufacturing environment completely unrelated to my degree. Can I apply?**

Participants must be at least 18 years old. Bachelor's degree completion and even master's programs are allowable if the educational program meets all other core criteria (two years or less needed; will lead to job in high demand, emerging sector, or entrepreneurial endeavor; etc.).

**13. Is there any assistance with day care/child care? I would love to do this, but I am a single parent and cannot afford to leave my two kids at childcare while I attend class.**

Under No Worker Left Behind providing resources for childcare expenses is allowable and is determined by your local Michigan Works!. Contact Michigan Works! at **1-800-285-WORK (9675)** or visit their website at [www.michiganworks.org](http://www.michiganworks.org) to find out more.

**14. What things can the free tuition be used for?**

Tuition costs, books, materials, fees (such as application costs, registration, and laboratory fees) and academic supportive services (counseling and career advising).

**15. Do I have to be a full-time student to be in No Worker Left Behind?**

No, the program guidelines require that participants complete training within four years of starting the program.

**16. Can I register for classes prior to going through the required assessment at the Michigan Works! Agency, and if so, will I be reimbursed for tuition costs?**

No Worker Left Behind is not a reimbursement program. All tuition is paid directly to the training institution by the Michigan Works! Agency. The starting point for determining eligibility is your local Michigan Works! Agency.

**17. What is considered a high demand occupation?**

High demand occupations are determined by the local Michigan Works! Agency in collaboration with education/training institutions, current labor market information, and employers. High demand occupations vary across the state. For an idea of the types of training that may be eligible visit [www.mycareereducation.org](http://www.mycareereducation.org). For further information please contact your local Michigan Works! Agency.